

## Chapter 5

We will examine 2D linear systems to construct our framework for classifying fixed points in 2D nonlinear systems.

remember our general framework of a system of ODE's ....

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = f(x_1, x_2 \dots x_n)$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = f(x_1, x_2 \dots x_n)$$

$\vdots$

$\vdots$

$$\frac{dx_n}{dt} = f(x_1, x_2 \dots x_n)$$

$n \rightarrow$  the dimension of our system

so a 2D linear system looks like

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = ax_1 + bx_2$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = cx_1 + dx_2$$

or in matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \text{ is always a fixed point}$$

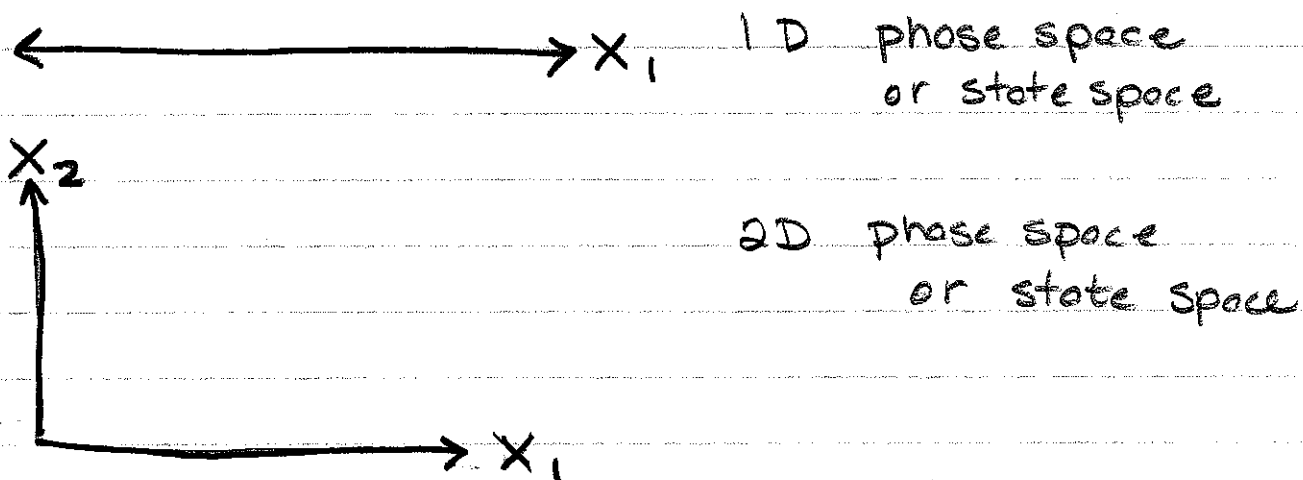
because  $\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  when  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

## Phase Plane

for a 1D system we looked at flow on a line

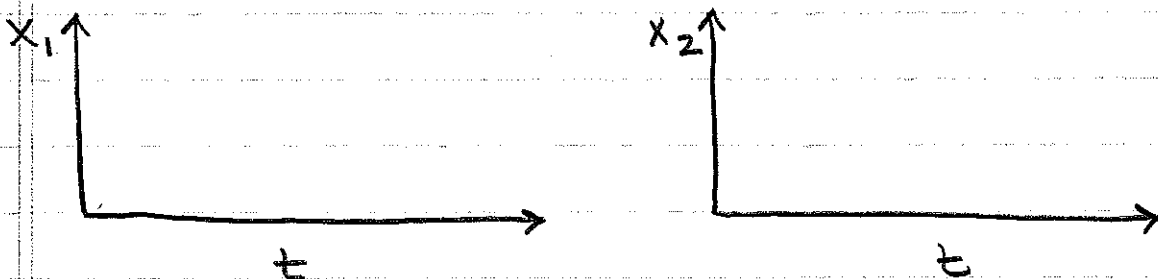
For a 2D system we look at flow on a plane

we have 2 trajectories now:  $x_1(t) + x_2(t)$



remember these views of the trajectories,  $x_1(t) + x_2(t)$ , are called the phase portraits.

as opposed to traditional views of the trajectories.



## Vector Fields in 2D $(\dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2)$

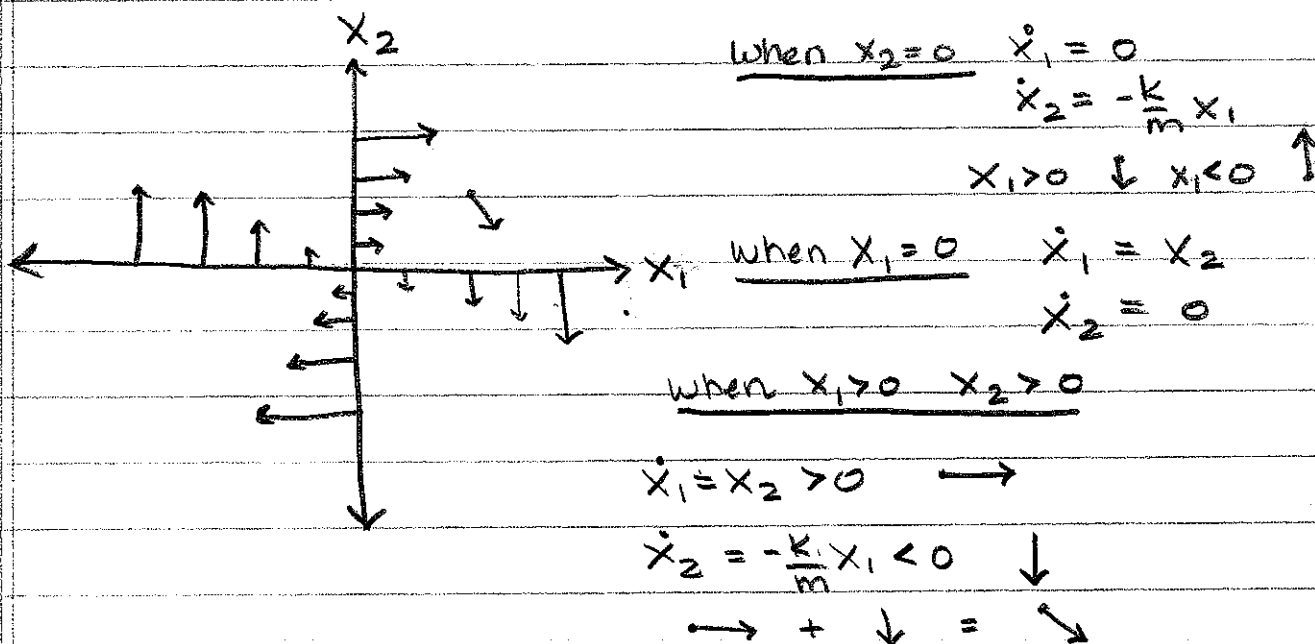
recall that the state of the system  $(x_1, x_2)$  at a given  $t$  determines how the state variables  $x_1$  &  $x_2$  will change in the near future because  $(\dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2)$  is determined uniquely by  $(x_1, x_2)$

so each point on the phase space has a unique velocity vector  $(\dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2)$

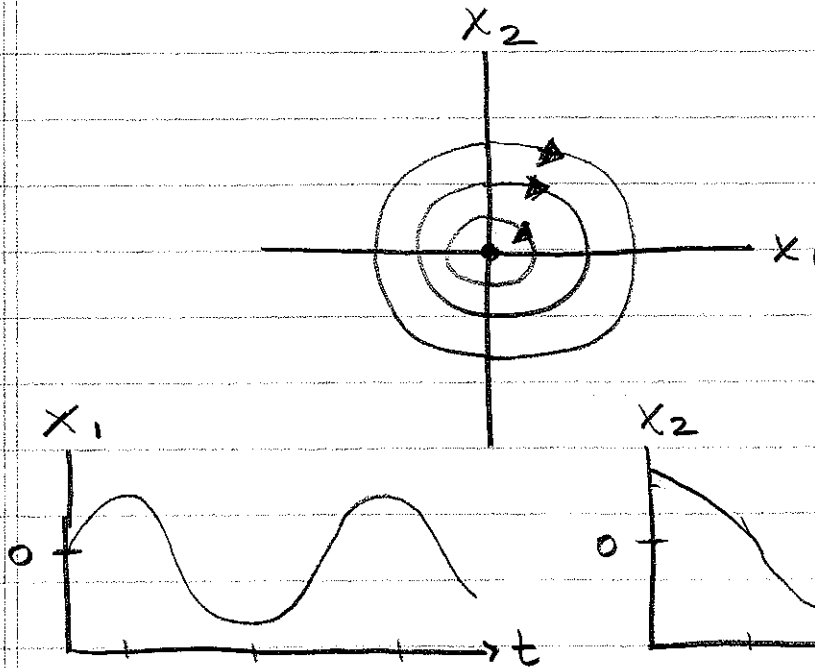
take the harmonic oscillator example 5.1.1

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_2 \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = -\frac{k}{m} x_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} k > 0 \text{ (spring constant)} \\ m > 0 \text{ (mass)} \end{array}$$

can construct the vector fields simply by plugging in values of the phase space.



So we can start to see the closed orbit trajectories of this system that circle around the fixed point  $\bar{x}^* = (0, 0)$



closed orbits are a fixed oscillation

would we classify this fixed point as stable or unstable? ... neither

So we have new kinds of fixed points in 2D systems.

BUT Before we get to that ... let's look at some other 2D vector fields.

Book looks at uncoupled 2D linear system

$$\dot{x}_1 = ax_1$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -x_2$$

recall for  $\frac{dx}{dt} = kx$  ;  $x(0) = x_0$

$$x(t) = x_0 e^{kt}$$

so

$$x_1(t) = x_{10} e^{at}$$

$$x_2(t) = x_{20} e^{-t}$$

$a < 0$   $\rightarrow$  exp decay  $a > 0$  exp growth

$\rightarrow$  exponential decay

uncoupled systems are convenient because the directional components of their vector fields & solutions fall along the axis of the phase plane.

$\dot{x}_1$  component is either

$\rightarrow$  or  $\leftarrow$

$\dot{x}_2$  component is either

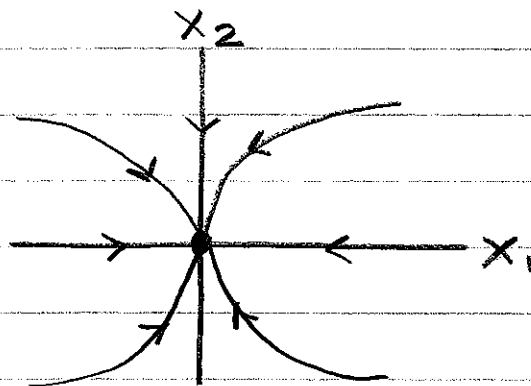
$\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$

so when  $a < 0$   $x_1(t)$  given on exponential decay  $|a|$  gives how fast it decays.

$$a < -1$$

$x_1$  decays faster than  $x_2$

$\bar{x}^* = (0,0) \rightarrow$  stable f.p.

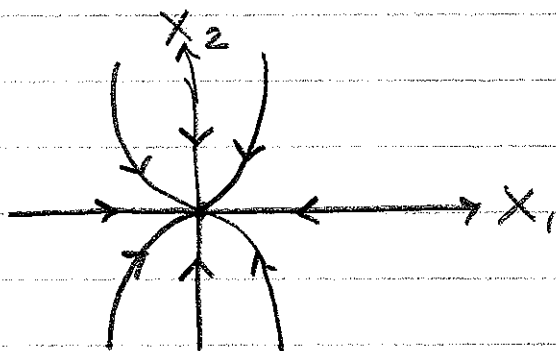


the trajectories approach the fixed point  
tangent to the slower direction as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

if you run time backwards  $t \rightarrow -\infty$   
the trajectories become // with the faster  
direction.

so when  $-1 < a < 0$

$x_1$  decays slower than  $x_2$



how much the  
trajectories curve  
depends on how  
much slower